

SENATE RESOLUTION 222

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Garrett Asher, Sr. of Oak Ridge.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Garrett Asher, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Asher was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on November 16, 1919, in Pineville, Kentucky, to Carlo Britton Asher and Mary Slusher Asher, Garrett Asher graduated from high school in Pineville and completed courses in accounting, real estate management, and business administration at the University of Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, from 1944 to 1945, Mr. Asher served in the United States Army, receiving a Purple Heart for heroic service while defending his country; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Oak Ridge from 1945 until his passing, he was involved in creating the original Downtown Shopping Center in Oak Ridge, as well as shopping centers in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and in Cincinnati, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, from 1941 to 1944, he was employed in the cost accounting department of the Tennessee Valley Authority; after serving in the Army, he spent nine years, from 1945 to 1954, as the Assistant Director of the Real Estate Division for the Roane-Anderson Economic Council, which later became Management Services Inc., the contractor in charge of city operations for the federal government; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Garrett Asher, Sr., founded Ridge Realty Company; he served ably as the President of Cumberland Development Company and Vice President of the Chamberlain Company; and

WHEREAS, he had also served his fellow citizens with distinction as a member of the first City Council of Oak Ridge and the Roane County Tax Equalization Board; and

WHEREAS, Garrett Asher, Sr., was active in numerous civic, community, and professional organizations, including the Oak Ridge Junior Chamber of Commerce, which he served as both the President and State Director; Oak Ridge Industrial Development Board, which he served as President; and the Tennessee Mortgage Bankers Association, which he ably led as a Vice President; and

WHEREAS, in addition, he was a founding member and past President of the Anderson County (Oak Ridge) Board of Realtors; past Board Member of the Roane-Anderson Economic Council; and past Board Member and Executive Committee Member of the Bank of Oak Ridge; and

WHEREAS, a longtime member of the Oak Ridge Country Club, Mr. Asher was an active member of the Oak Ridge Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow, past President of the Oak Ridge Jaycees, a member of the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival, and a Commodore of Fort Loudoun Yacht Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Asher was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he will be sorely missed by his children and their spouses, Garrett Bruce Asher, Jr., and his wife, Pamela; Tara Asher Crowe and her husband, Jerry and Ronald Keith Asher; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Asher is also survived by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Ashley Vann and her children, Britney, Austin, Zachary, and Natalie; Blakely Bills and her husband, Brian, and their children, Bailey and Benjamin; Nicole Gore and her husband, Randall, and their children, Ashtyn, Colby, and Kennedy; Angie Hensberry and her husband, Joseph; Ryan Asher; Ashley Crowe; and Jamie Crowe; and

WHEREAS, Garrett Asher leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Garrett Asher, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, as we pay tribute to his indelibly legacy of exemplary service to Oak Ridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Asher.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.